

“Because the right to choose counsel is not absolute, it necessarily follows that a defendant does not have an absolute right to substitution of counsel. As a general rule, a defendant must show good cause in requesting a new appointed lawyer.” United States v. Mullen, 32 F.3d 891, 895 (4th Cir. 1994). Here, Defendant’s complaints do not establish good cause for the Court to

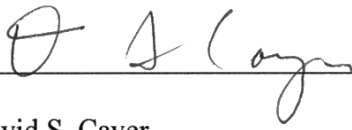
appoint new counsel. Based upon the foregoing, the Court finds no basis to remove Mr. Gsell as appointed counsel.

Defendant states that he and his family are attempting to retain counsel. The Court advised Defendant that he has the right to retain counsel of his choice. The Court also cautioned Defendant that retained counsel may be reluctant to step in on the eve of trial.

The Clerk is directed to send copies of this Order to counsel for the parties; and to the Honorable Richard L. Voorhees

SO ORDERED.

Signed: April 15, 2016



David S. Cayer
United States Magistrate Judge

